

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ROUTING SLIP

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI				
6	DDA		X		
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG		X		
12	Compt				
13	D/OLL				
14	D/PAO	X /			
15	D/PERS		X		
16	VC/NIC				
17	D/Security/DA		X		
18					
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SUSPENSE		Date			

Remarks

To # 14: Please note request for contact response by Thursday Morning, 29 May.

Executive Secretary

27 May 86

Date

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Executive Registry

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The Washington Post

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May 27, 1986

The Honorable
William E. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

I have been working on a story that deals with Edward L. Howard, who was employed by the Central Intelligence Agency from 1981 to 1983, and who disappeared from his home in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on Sept. 21, according to an affidavit by an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In the course of reporting on this story both in New Mexico and here, a number of questions have arisen that involve the CIA and I would appreciate an opportunity to discuss them with you or any members of your agency.

Among those questions:

1. Mr. Howard had a past history of drug abuse both when with the Peace Corps and the Agency for International Development. What determination was made about Howard's past actions that permitted his hiring by the Agency?

2. Howard was selected for a highly responsible post in Moscow. When was he selected for this position and why, given his background of drug abuse?

3. I have been told that Mrs. Howard was also trained by the CIA. Is this true? What training did she receive and what role was she to play?

4. What led to the cancellation of Howard's assignment to Moscow? I have been told he was then investigated by the Agency with an eye toward giving him another assignment. What results from that inquiry led to the determination to separate Howard from CIA?

5. Did the CIA play any role in getting Howard a job with the New Mexico legislature?

6. How did CIA first hear of Howard's February 1984 arrest for assault in Santa Fe, and what, if anything, did the Agency do about it?

7. According to an October 2 affidavit by FBI special agent Martin R. Schwarz, Howard met on Sept. 24, 1984, with "two current employees of the CIA." Who were the employees and when, where and why did that meeting take place? What report did they file with the Agency and what did the Agency do to follow up on that report?



The Hon. William E. Casey

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8. I have been told that the CIA paid a part or all of the costs for psychiatric help for Howard in 1984 and 1985 and that reports from the psychiatrist were sent to the Agency in Washington. Are these facts true? Was any effort made to see if Howard had contacted Soviet officials either directly or indirectly prior to June 1985?

9. Was any consideration given by Agency officials to the possibility that Howard might give or sell the information he had learned while in the CIA to another power? If so, what was done? If not, why not?

10. Why did the Agency request an FBI investigation of Howard in August-September 1985? Prior to that time did the Agency have any reports on Howard's trips abroad?

11. I have been told that CIA officials visited Mrs. Howard about two weeks after Howard left his home. What was the purpose of that visit?

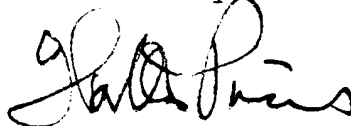
12. What is the estimate of the damage to CIA operations from Howard's sale of information to the Soviets?

13. What changes have been made in CIA handling of former employees as a result of the Howard case?

14. Does the Howard case make it more or less certain that Vitaly Yurchenko was a legitimate defector? I have been told that Yurchenko described the individual that turned out to be Howard as the only Soviet penetration into the Agency. Is that an accurate characterization?

I would appreciate by Thursday morning an indication of when -- or if -- you or your staff are prepared to discuss these questions.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Walter Pincus", written in a cursive style.

Walter Pincus
Staff Writer